SKY MASTERS

JUDGE PARKER

BLONDIE

BEN BOLT

LIL ABNER

REX MORGAN

ARCHIE

JULIE JONES

POGO

RIP KIRBY

Garden Notes

Wax 'Pots' Work

By M. V. CHESNUT, FRHS

I had a note the other day from a lady who asked me if it would be a good idea to start some of her seeds indoors in cut-down milk bottle cartons. A neighbor apparently used and recommended these containers as seed-starters, but my correspondent had some doubts as to whether or not the wax coating would be injurious to the plant roots.

Milk bottle cartons, paper cups, and similar wax-coated containers are entirely satisfactory for starting individual plants indoors, but you must always remember to poke a few holes in the bottom first to allow excess water to drain out. Over-watering is a very common cause of failure, both with young seedlings and with established houseplants, and while plants CAN be grown successfully in glazed pots and other containers without a drainage hole, it requires considerably more care in the watering to avoid rotting the roots.

* * *

I have used all kinds of paper cups, cartons, and other waterproofed containers for starting seeds indoors—those little ice cream "tubs" are good, too—but I always punch a few holes in the bottom with a nail or the ice pick first, and cover them with a good wad of toilet tissue, paper handkerchief, or paper towelling before putting in the soil. This filter allows the excess water to drain away, but keeps the grains of soil from blocking up the holes.

One minor disadvantage in using waxed containers as seed starters is the fact that you have to get the plant out of its "pot" when you set it out in the garden, for the paraffin-treated cardboard won't rot very readily in the soil. This means a certain amount of disturbance to the roots, and some setback to the plant, for a few of the invisible root-hairs are always torn away and lost even in the most careful transplanting.

* * *

There are ways and means of minimizing this damage, of course. One way is to slit the sides of the container with a razor blade and peel away the cardboard carefully before setting the root ball in the soil. For this operation, the dirt in the pot must be moist to just exactly the right degree, for if it is too dry or sloppy wet, some of the soil will fall away, damaging the delicate root hairs.

The trend today is towards seed starters which can be planted out in the garden—pots made of materials which will hold their shape and firmness while indoors, but which will rot away when buried in the ground. With such containers, no actual transplanting is done, so there is no loss of root hairs, and no setback to the plant. Using these "consumable" plant pots, it is possible nowadays to give things like corn and gladiolus a head start indoors—subjects which are violently resentful of any root disturbance.

* * *

Among the consumable seed starters available, we have Ferto-pots, manufactured from dried and compressed cow manure; Hartman pots, made in England and sold locally, using an absorbent fibre; Jiffy pots from Denmark, pressed from a brownish fibre which, I understand, is impregnated with fertilizer so as to feed the roots as it rots in the soil, and Miracle pots, of heavy green absorbent-cardboard treated against fungus rots.

One stunt which is gaining popularity in England is the use of bottomless cardboard tubes as seed starters. You simply saw up a few tubes—mailing tubes, or the tubes from inside rolls of toilet paper or paper towelling — into convenient lengths, pack them close together in a suitable box or seed flat, fill them with soil, and sow your seeds.

These are eventually planted out in the garden intact, and while a section of heavy mailing tube may not rot away so readily, the roots will grow out the bottom and into the surrounding soil. Use two-inch lengths for shallow-rooted subjects like lettuce, and four-inch "long johns" for sweet peas, which make a long tap roots.

The Viewing World

By John Crosby

Teen-Agers: The Ruling Class

Sam Levenson, the not-entirely reformed school teacher, has been the guest on Arthur Godfrey's program all week and the fur has really been flying over there in a way that does my old heart good. Levenson has been restating old truths about child rearing which haven't been stated for so long that they sound like subversive propaganda.

First Sam let into the sanctity of the teen-ager, itself a sacred subject: "The parents of America are so frightened, they're even more frightened than the kids. Actually, the ruling class in America are the teen-agers. They have overthrown the government."

* * *

One of Levenson's pet peeves is the way kids have taken over the family car and insist on the right to own a car as practically a constitutional right. I think here he has hit a welcome note for a lot of us. "The secondary implications are that he expects everything in life. You do a kid no good by giving him everything. The only thing he gets out of it is the habit of receiving. You've denied him the joy of achieving.

"Fifteen-and-a-half and he's going steady. You know on what. And the parents are supporting the kids not only through college but it's becoming a national habit for kids to get married by their junior year and just notify papa about it, which is very sweet."

And then Levenson said something so basic that it's almost revolutionary to hear it said aloud, certainly in a public place: "The car is only a symbol of the unearned increment that a kid should not be given unless it's absolutely necessary. Because you're denying him that wonderful thing to look forward too."

The second day Godfrey and Levenson got on the subject of sex and truancy and corruption — as it is mixed up with and precipitated by the motor car. Your modern youngster, quipped Levenson, runs away from home in a brand new way. Now the kids say: "Call me a taxi."

"I've found," said Levenson, "as a school teacher that the truant invariably ended up in a car somewhere. The car provided him with a means of escape. The car has become the American boudoir."

The third day Levenson lit into rock 'n' roll as a positive menace, "almost musical alcoholism," in the strongest possibe terms. It was music to hear him.

Hollywood Today

By Sheilah Graham

Tale's Nun Nurses Audrey

HOLLYWOOD (NANA)—**Audrey Hepburn,** by an amazing coincidence, is being nursed back to health from the serious injury caused by her fall from a horse by the **Sister Luke** she portrayed in "The Nun's Story." Audrey met Sister Luke, who is now nurse **Lou Habets** and living in Glendale, Calif., during the recent filming of the best seller. When Miss Habets learned of Audrey's injury, she flew to Mexico in the ambulance plane, came back with her, and is now nursing her almost around the clock in Audrey's Beverly Hills home.

Clint Walker will film two "Cheyennes" before he stars in "Yellowstone Kelly." Clint will make only 13 "Cheyennes" for the new season. He settled his battle at Warners, incidentally, by walking into **Jack Warner's** office and having it out, man to man.

* * *

Maybe **Natalie Wood** should walk into the boss's office and tell him her ideas for a new contract. Nat is still on suspension and has been off the screen for a year.

* * *

Christopher Fry, distinguished British poet-playwright who went to Rome to write the "Ben Hur" screenplay, is staying in the eternal city for another six months. Fry, who had never visited Rome until he went there for "Ben Hur," is lingering to complete his next play—a historical drama of England.

Winning Contract

Vul: Both

NORTH
♠ A 9 6 3
♡ Q J 7 2
◇ A 9
♣ K 8 4

WEST
♠ 7
♡ 8 4 3
◇ K 10 6 5 2
♣ Q 9 7 3

EAST
♠ J 10 5 2
♡ 10
◇ Q J 8 3
♣ J 10 6 2

SOUTH (D)
♠ K Q 8 4
♡ A K 9 6 5
◇ 7 4
♣ A 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♡	Pass	3 ♡	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ◇	Pass
4 N.T.	Pass	5 ♡	Pass
6 ♡	All Pass		

Opening lead: ◇ 5

This deal occurred in a New England tournament some years ago.

North had a choice a responses on the first round, and correctly raised to three hearts. While a one-spade response could not be severely criticized, the immediate heart raise is much to be preferred. The subsequent auction enabled North-South to reach an excellent contract.

Dummy's diamond ace held the first trick, and three rounds of trumps were drawn. South now led the spade king, followed by a small spade to dummy's ace, West failing. Declarer belatedly cashed the ace and king of clubs, and ruffed a club in his hand. A diamond was led, but East won and returned the spade jack, and declarer ultimately had to lose a spade trick in addition to the previously lost diamond, for a one-trick set.

A little caution by South could have insured the contract against any distribution. Do you see the winning play?

After drawing trumps and cashing just the spade king, declarer must play two high clubs and ruff the third club. A diamond return will strip North and South of the two minor suits, and it doesn't matter which opponent wins the diamond lead. West would have to give declarer a ruff-sluff; while East would have to lead the spade jack, won by North's ace. South's queen-eight would then take care of East's ten-five.

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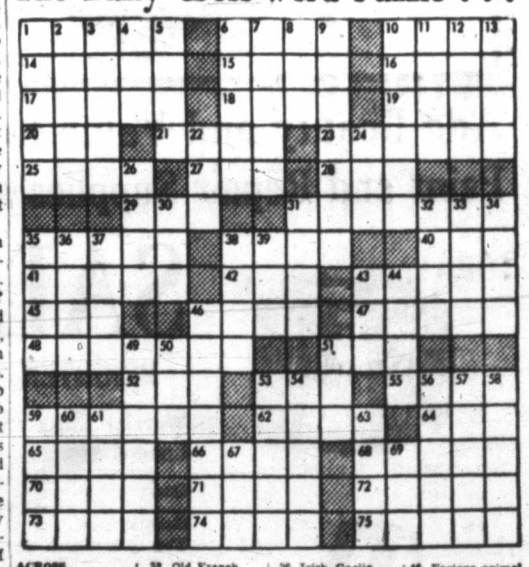
Duplicate Bridge Victors of Month

Winners of the monthly master point awards tournament of the Allmasters' Duplicate Bridge Club: 1, Mrs. E. Cleworth and Gordon Rodger; 2, R. A. Lipsey and J. Lukas; 3, Tony Marsh and L. Stewart; 4, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Duprau.

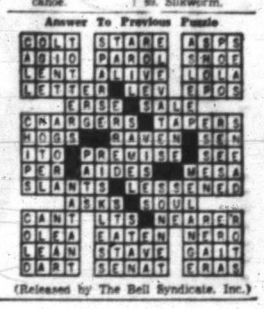
The Daily Cross-Word Puzzle . . .



ACROSS
1. Subdue.
6. Kind of pastry.
10. A list, as of soldiers.
14. Unfasten.
15. Appellation of Athena.
16. English boys' school.
17. Worship.
18. Part of body (pl.).
19. Sulk.
20. Yellow ocher.
21. Dagger.
23. Guides.
25. Unemployed.
27. An enzyme.
28. Period of time.
29. King Arthur's lance.
31. Large shallow dish.
33. Embrace.
35. Word of sorrow.
40. Holland commune.
41. Sharpens.
42. Illuminated.
43. Small European herring.
45. Bitter vetch.
46. Military signal: lights out.
47. British street car (pl.).
48. To come safely through.
51. A Chinese weight.
52. Stage success.
53. Old French coin.
55. Measure of Malacca.
59. Northern Pacific coast Indian.
62. A pilaster.
64. Number.
65. Seaport in Algiers.
66. Sea eagles.
68. Vital organ.
70. Unaccompanied.
71. Estimate.
72. Get up.
73. Plural pronoun.
74. Quarrel.
75. Waits for.

DOWN
1. As it were.
2. Brought to ruin.
3. Coral island.
4. Title of respect
5. Pay attention to.
6. Himalayan wild goat (pl.).
7. Similar.
8. Corded cloth.
9. Pendant ornaments.
10. Reiterate.
11. American Indian.
12. Travel from place to place.
13. Emmets.
22. Scotch for John.
24. Malay pewter coin.
26. Irish Gaelic.
30. Harvest goddess.
31. Strokes lightly.
32. Buddhist monastry in Japan.
35. Kind of cheese.
36. Soaks.
37. To masticate.
38. Knowledge.
39. A handle.
39. Winged.
39. Part of mouth.
43. As it stands (mus.).
44. South Seas canoe.
46. Fastens animal with a rope.
49. Attendants on an Anglo-Saxon lord.
50. That man's.
51. Crude shelter.
53. Christmas visitor.
54. Attack.
56. Sedate.
57. Succinct.
58. Puts up poker stake.
59. Alone.
60. Golf club.
61. Ebb.
63. A king of Israel (Bib.).
67. Knock.
69. Silkworm.

Answer To Previous Puzzle



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